REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-6, 9-10, 15, and 17-20 are pending in the current application. Claims 1, 5, 9, 15, 17, and 20 are amended by this Amendment. Claims 2-4, 7-8, 11-14, and 16 are canceled by this Amendment. No new claims are added by this Amendment.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9-15, and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Okada et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,266, 483, herein Okada). Claims 8 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Curet et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,823,010, herein Curet). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 is amended to recite the following:

1.   A recording medium having a data structure for managing reproduction of at least still images recorded on the recording medium, comprising:
        an information file area including at least one information file, the information file associated with a data file recorded on the recording medium, the data file including at least video data, and the information file including a type indicator indicating whether the video data in the data file is for at least one still image; and
        a data area storing the data file, wherein
        the information file further includes a length indicator indicating a length of the information file subsequent to the length indicator,
        - the video data in the data file is recorded as one or more packetized elementary stream packets,
        each still image in the data file is recorded as a packetized elementary stream packet, and
        only one still image is represented by each packetized elementary stream packet in the data file.

Applicant respectfully submits that the references cited by the Examiner fail to disclose the combination of features required by amended claim 1. In particular, the Examiner asserts Okada at col. 10, lines 61-67 discloses "a length indicator indicating a length of the information file subsequent to the length indicator" as required by amended claim 1. However, Okada at col.

10, lines 61-67 discloses a time map comprising the length of playback time and the data size for each movie object unit (VOBU). Therefore, Okada discloses a time map for the movie object unit. Okada does not disclose a length indicator indicating a length of the information file. Further, Applicant notes Okada discloses at col. 8, lines 35-37 the cells of the management information include starting position information ("Start") 60c on the time axis of the object, and ending position information ("End") 60e on the time axis in the object. However, this start and end information disclosed by Okada is on the _time_ axis, and is not directed to a length of a file. Further, the start and end information disclosed by Okada is directed to information on the object, and not to a length of an information file. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Okada fails to disclose the combination of features required by amended claim 1, and in particular, that Okada fails to disclose "the information file further includes **a length indicator indicating a length of the information file subsequent to the length indicator"** as required by amended claim 1.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that Okada discloses at col. 11, lines 2-5 "In MPEG program stream, a video stream and an audio stream are assembled into a packet (PES packet), and a plurality of the packets (PES packets) are packed into a sequence." Therefore, Okada specifically discloses that both an audio and video stream is assembled into a PES packet. Accordingly, one skilled in the art would not look to combine Curet, which teaches each PES packet comprising a single picture and beginning with a video access unit, with Okada which explicitly teaches PES packets containing both a video stream and an audio stream assembled into one packet. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1, which requires "only one still image is represented by each packetized elementary stream packet in the data file," is further patentable for at least the above noted reasons. Applicant also respectfully

submits that one skilled in the art would not have a reason to combine Okada and Curet in an attempt to disclose the overall combination of features required by amended claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is patentable for at least the above reasons. Applicant also submits that claims 17-20 are amended to include features somewhat similar to those discussed above in regards to amended claim 1, and therefore are patentable for at least somewhat similar reasons. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5-6, 9-10, and 15, which depend from amended claim 1, are patentable for at least the same reasons discussed above in regards to amended claim 1 as well as on their own merits.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of the claims in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for a two (2) months extension of time for filing a reply to the outstanding Office Action and submit the required $460.00 extension fee herewith.
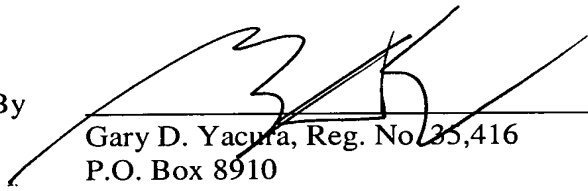
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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